



NOAA WEATHER RADIO

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service**

NOAA WEATHER RADIO is a service of NOAA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce, designed to speed warnings of natural disasters and national emergencies to the general public and emergency action units. NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts (on frequencies of 162.400 MHz and 162.550 MHz*) are made from National Weather Service Offices 24-hours a day. Taped weather forecast messages are repeated every 4 to 6 minutes and are routinely revised every 2 to 3 hours or more frequently if needed.

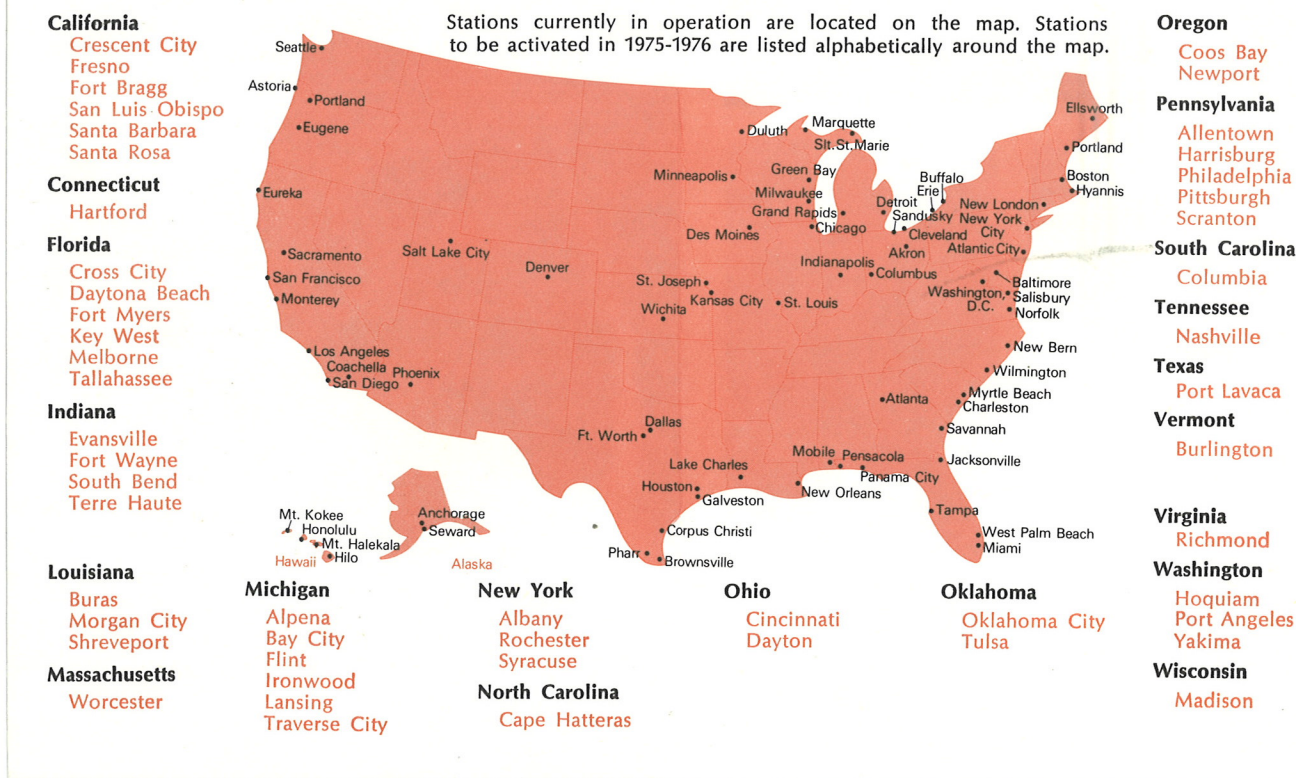
The routine broadcasts are tailored to the weather information needs of the people within the receiving area. Stations located along the coast and Great Lakes provide specialized weather information for boaters, fishermen, and others engaged in coastal activities.

During emergency situations, National Weather Service forecasters can interrupt the routine weather broadcast and substitute

special warning messages. The forecasters can also activate specially designed warning receivers. These receivers will either sound an alarm (siren), indicating that an emergency exists and the listener should tune-in the appropriate frequency; or, when operated in a muted mode, will be automatically turned on so that the warning message will be heard.

Several radio manufacturers offer weather radios with and without the emergency warning alarm. In either case, the National Weather Service recommends receivers having a sensitivity of one microvolt or less and a quieting factor of 20 db. Messages can usually be received 40 to 60 miles from the antenna site, but the effective range depends on terrain and the type of receiver used. Where transmitting antennas are on high ground, the range is somewhat greater.

* MHz = Megahertz. One million cycles per second.





NOAA/PA 74035
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